SOCIAL SKILLS AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS INRELATION TO CERTAIN FAMILY-RELATED AND ACADEMIC VARIABLES

SYNOPSIS OF THE THESIS

Mrs. VandanaKapoor

Registration No.: AU22EDPhD0097

Under supervision of

Dr. SUMAN KUMARI

In Partial fulfillment of the Requirements

for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

FACULTY OF EDUCATION, BASIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

ABHILASHI UNIVERSITY

CHAIL -CHOWK, MANDI (H.P)-175028

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MARCH, 2024

1

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the dissertation synopsis entitled "**SOCIAL SKILLS AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN RELATION TO CERTAIN FAMILY-RELATED AND ACADEMIC VARIABLES**" to be submitted for the partial fulfillment of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy is my original work and the dissertation has not formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, associate ship or fellowship of similar other titles. It has not submitted to any other University or Institution for the award of any other degree or diploma.

Place: Mandi° **Signature of the Research Scholar:**

Date: 24/03/2024. **Name of the Research scholar**

(Mrs. Vandana Kapoor)

Forwarded by:

Place: Mandi° **Signature of the Supervisor:**

Date: 24/03/2024 **Name of the Supervisor: (Dr. Suman Kumari)**

2

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis titled ***"SOCIAL SKILLS AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN RELATION TO CERTAIN FAMILY-RELATED AND ACADEMIC VARIABLES"*** an original piece of work done by Mrs. Vandana Kapoor under my supervision for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, in Abhilashi University Chail Chowk Mandi H.P. I also certify that this work has not been submitted to any other university for a Ph.D. degree.

PLACE : Mandi

DATE : 24/03/2024

SIGNATURE OF THE SUPERVISOR:

NAME OF THE SUPERVISOR : Dr. Suman Kumari

Index

.	TITLE	PAGE NO.
	Introduction **Characteristics of adolescence**	
	Social skills **Basic social skills** **Factors affecting social skills** **Parental impact** **Income of the family** **Type of family** **Environmental factors / Locality**	
	Review of Related Literature	
	Need and significance of the study	
	Statement of the Problem	
	Objectives of the Study	
	Hypotheses of the study	
	Delimitations of the study	
	Operational definitions of the terms used	
	Variables of the study	
	Research Methodology **Sampling** **Research tools to be Developed /Used** **Procedure for Data Collection** **Statistical Techniques to be Used**	
	Bibliography	

THE TITLE

"Social skills among senior secondary school students in relation to certain family-related and academic variables"

Education plays vital role in grooming and shaping the personality of adolescents. In the fast-changing globalized world adolescents must be able to seize opportunities and confront challenges. They need such skills through which they can become an active member of the society and can engage productively in the society so that they can take positive decisions and can engage themselves as a productive member of the society. Sometimes various factors like parenting styles, economic conditions of the family, educational qualifications of parents and geographical conditions brings about many changes in the personality of adolescents and put deep impact on them.

ADOLESCENCE

The adolescent period is a stage in which the child faces many difficulties, observe many changes and comes in contact with so many people who not only differ in socio economic status and area which they belong but also differ in various situations. During adolescence, the increased influence of peer groups is a major determinant of social skills. Other than family and peer group, various variables such as difference in gender, place of living, type of school and category of school etc. also influences the social skills of adolescents.

Adolescents' social skills are highly influenced by various demographical aspects such as family, social environment and personal choices, traditions, cultures and surroundings. Appropriate social skills must be there in adolescents for the successful completion of societal roles and to become a successful member of the society. Adolescenceperiod is a span of enormous challenges and a very important time in terms of social identity. These are impressionable years during which a child undergoes intellectual, social and psychological changes. Simultaneously, human values, goals, career choice, decision making, communication skills and self-identity are needed to be shaped up.

It is a process of successfully transforming a child and completing developmental tasks in terms of growth, attitude, beliefs, personality, emotions and social skill for desirable participation in the society and attaining maturity like an adult. On one hand, it is span of hope and new goals, while on other hand; it is an era of confusion, challenges and risks. It is not only time of growth and development; it is epoch of exploring own potential and emerging as an adult. So, incorporating social skill successfully is very important for attaining social maturity, emotional maturity and successful adulthood development.

Characteristics of Adolescence:

- **Adolescence is an eraof transition:** Transition doesn't mean a smash or change from what has already happened, but it does mean moving from one stage to another. During this stage the adolescent has to play multiple roles and confuses among their roles or identity.
- **Self-centered attitude:** Circumstances are often difficult for teenagers to see from other people's perspectives. In this way, the behaviour and attitude of adolescents can become self-centered and just focus on their own needs regardless of how those needs affect others who are in relation to them.
- **Adolescence is duration of the search for identity:** Adolescence is the duration or era when adolescents begin to explore and assert their personal identities. During this period of development, adolescents engage with peers and largely in society in the process of discovering out where they fit.
- **Peer relationships:** During adolescence, friends and peer groups begin to take precedence over relationships with family. However, while family interactions are still important and necessary for adolescent development, adolescents often place more emphasis on their friends' perceptions and values. During this period, teenagers like to do what so ever their friend says and follow the ideology of their peer groups only.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Social skills help us every day whether it is about communication, establishing one's identity or interacting with the society members where we are living. It includes verbal and non-

verbal communication, such as speech, gestures, facial expression and body language etc. Out of so many members of the society only that person will be considered having strong social skills if they have the knowledge of how to behave in social situations and understand both written and implied rules while communicating with individuals. Social skills is an essential part of adolescent development and if teenagers have effective social skills, then they can adjust in any situation or anywhere but if the skills are not developed then they cannot work smoothly in days to day life activities and it can also create hurdles among the path of adolescents.

Walker (1983) defines social skills as "a set of competencies that allow an individual to initiate and maintain positive social relationships, contribute to peer acceptance and to a satisfactory school adjustment, and allow an individual to cope effectively with the larger social environment".

Social skills are defined as social behavior classes offered by the individual to act appropriately in interpersonal relationships. The development of social skills is an important and vital step in individuals' own and professional development because it helps them build their relationships in far or much better way.

Social skills are behaviors that are learned which permit an individual to "engage in socially acceptable interactions with other people such that the interactions lead to positive responses from others and exempt the negative aspects" - (**Elliott and Gresham, 1993).**

The role or need of effective social interactions are necessary for emotional and behavioral adjustment, and successful functioning at home, school, work and social setting. Therefore, it is especially challenging for adolescents to establish and maintain competent social interactions because of the many social developmental changes that occur. As a child grows and enters in the adolescent phase, the social interaction and relationships become increasingly complicated. It is so because, adolescent like to spend more time with peers and interactions with opposite-sex peers. Effective social skill plays an important role to get recognition in peers.

Social skills are considered as very important for social adjustment in the society during the most important and one of the crucial stage i.e. adolescence. Related studies refer that children which have develop social skills can manage better their interpersonal relationships, have better self-image and become more resistant to challenges. In the process of social skills

development during the adolescence period there must be development of three main and important such as observation, positive behaviour and thinking. Thereby, the individual adapts its behavior according to the situation involved (McIntyre, 2006).

BASIC SOCIAL SKILLS:

There are so many basic skills which is required for an individual to become an active member of the society and to become socialized so that they can create healthy and positive interactions with one another. Eye contact, Facial expression, social distance, Quality of voice, greeting others, making conversations, working with others and playing with others.

METHODS FOR DEVELOPING SOCIAL SKILLS

Social skills can be developed by using following ways and techniques and some of the methods of developing social skills are as following:

- **Role playing:** It is one of the very useful strategies for teaching social skills is role-play. Role-play allows students to practice social behaviors in a structured and safe environment. To "set up" role-play practice, teachers ask students to talk about social situations that are uncomfortable or difficult for them. It is a technique for engaging student interest and providing opportunities for practice and feedback. Very close observation is done by the observers in role play technique.
- **Modeling:** Teachers can teach social skills by the behaviour they model.
- **Using Cooperative Learning Strategies**: Research has shown that cooperative learning techniques are effective for improving both academic and social skills of children and adolescents. In addition, cooperative learning improves the acceptance of children with disabilities into the traditional classroom by their typical developing peers.

FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL SKILLS

There are an enormous factor that affects the social skills of an individual and are as following:

PARENTAL IMPACT

Families play a vital role in providing the most congenial and positive atmosphere to the teenagers for their style of living and basic patterns of adjustment in the society .It is only the

parents who can shape the personality of their children's because it is only the parents which are considered as a role model by them. The quality of relationship with parents and their children allows them to grow and explore and gain experience. Due to high living standards in city, it is need of time that both the parents have to work to fulfill the accomplishments and needs of their family members and to run family in effective way. Parents of teenagers can put a huge impact in the development of social skills, if the students will be encouraged by the parents to make friends and form peer groups it will not only help them to become confident but will also make them socially developed.

Researches has shown that if the relationship between the family members and the children will be strong and if high parental involvement will be there then it will lead to the greater level of social development. If the style of families will be highly cohesive, idealized, and democratic it will lead to the development of social skills by exploring their social environment. If democratic environment is there and parents are showing affection and also concern about the needs of the teenagers it is not only going to make them reliable and happy but will also develop good social skills among them. They will not only become social within the household activities but also in outside activities.

INCOME OF THE FAMILY

Income of the family also affects the personality of teenagers to the larger extent. Most of the investigations has shown that if the income of the family is low it will lead to stress, frustrations, financial worries and also low quality of interactions in theneighbourhood, society and also low parental involvement will be there. and if the income is high, it is automatically fulfilling the desires and wishes of the teenagers because during this time period money is also one of the major factors which leads to the happiness enriched academic environment and explore their personality and to enlarge and make their own identity among the peer groups. The relationships of such students will be positive with their parents because they are fulfilling their desires and less emotional suffering will be there.

TYPE OF FAMILY

Since ancient time the system of joint family is prevailed in India and Indians has started following the concept of westernization and modernization which is giving rise to new cultures,

traditions, values and norms which ultimately leads to the rise to a newform of family i.e. Nuclear Family. Various differences can be observed among the personality of those who belong to nuclear and joint family. In a nuclear family, the parents impose the values and rules on the teenagers. But in a joint family, the size of family is large which enables a child to automatically and subconsciously learn critical values like' sharing' and 'adaptation.

One of the most important benefits of growing in a joint family is that in a joint family the teenagers get lots of emotional support and companionship due to the large size of the family because in joint family they will not only get surrounded by grandparents but cousins, aunts and uncle etc. This expanded network will build their confidence and will lead to the enhanced social skills among them. The biggest part of teenager's personality can be shaped by inculcating the aspects of culture, values and traditions which will ultimately boost them and will lead to socialization. Since these are inculcated by the family, it plays a monumental job in shaping the personality of teenagers.

Every family is unique in its own way or we can say that have various advantages and disadvantages. Parents are also starved for time, especially working parents because if both the parents are working than there's little useful communication held between the parents and the child. In a joint family, indeed if both the parents are working out, there's always someone from the family around at home to look after the child and talk to them. Iin single or in nuclear families the parents cannot provide the quality time to their wards which will lead to lack of values and development of social skills among the teenagers.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS / LOCALITY

Personality's doesn't live in vacuum but to large extent depends upon social settings. It is society that makes individual cultured. Nearly everything that he learns is acquired from the society. Adolescents of rural background have lack of information and experience which in turn affect their potential by establishing apositive image and sound career perspective. They do not have a supportive environment in order to share their difficulties, worries and concerns with others. The most important obstacles which students face is that very little communication occurs between the parents and the teenagers. Good relationships can be built between children and parents if there will be more interaction or you can say that communication between them

especially in the families of remote areas. The family's surrounding environment has a profound impact on adolescent's social skills.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Review of existing literature is the foremost part to conduct any research study. It guides the experimenter and helps in coordinating what work has been done and what important motifs need to be worked on in the future. Review of literature helps us in adding or enhancing our knowledge in our exploration area rather than the duplication of exploration work. A careful review of research journals, books, dissertations, theses and other sources of information on the problem to be investigated is one of the important steps in the planning of any exploration study **(Koul, Lokesh, 2006).**

For the purpose of presiding the present study the investigator tried to accumulate and review various related literature related to social skills which will give the direction to the researcher to examine and inquire the research problem in adequate manner.

Muni and Pang Rahi (2008) conducted a study to understand the social skill of adolescents with reference to the employed and non-employed mothers and noticed that the adolescents whose mothers were employed were more socially developed than those whose mothers were not employed. Thus, the adolescents of employment are more adjustment either in class room setting as well as in social situations. The social development enables them to grasp the social structure in better ways as compared to adolescents of non-employed mothers. The findings of the study seem to shows that the adolescents whose mothers are employed is not a burden but with the help of this the adolescents start realizing and understanding their potential in better and effective ways.

Luthra (2009) investigated the study on the behaviour of adolescents with regard to their maternal employment and it was found that the adolescents of working mother get maturity in early age and they also understand the dual career of mother in effective way. Hence, the behaviour of those adolescents was found to be very cooperative and helpful towards their mother. Secondly, the adolescents of employed mothers are more socially developed are good in maintaining their social relations and also has better career development and help their mother in doing their household activities in effective manner.

Nayak (2014) studied on the influence of culture linked gender and age on social competence of higher secondary school adolescents. For this study 240 students were randomly and carefully chosen from ten higher secondary schools of Odisha, a South-Eastern region of India of age group between 15 to 18 years. In the study, social competent Questionnaires were used to measure social competence of the participants. Data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics, multifactorial analysis of variance, post- hoc tests, correlational analysis and factor analysis. The findings of the study show high scores of female adolescents than male adolescents on social capability of the same age group and within the same cultural setting. Regardless of gender and age, a significant difference was found between the adolescents of urban and rural secondary schools in social capability. Adolescents from secondary school of urban and rural background found significantly different in social capability.

Mishra (2014) conducted a study on the role of family environment in developing social skills among the adolescent students. As India is one of the most populous country so this research would be of great help for those who wanted to conduct a study in this field. He has taken a sample of total 130 students of 13-18 years of age to check or find out the relationship between family environment and social skills. The results showed positive association between family environment and social skills among adolescents.

Devi Mukesh (2015) conducted a research study to see the effect of social skills on the academic achievement of adolescent students. The main objective or purpose to conduct this study was to see the effect of social skill on academic achievement of students belonging to different backgrounds. Each background was studied separately by the researcher. Purposive sampling was used in this research by the researcher. The sample included 193 male and 127 female students and in all 10 schools were covered i.e. 5 schools from the rural area and 5 from the urban area of age group 15-18 years from classes,+1 and +2 from Kurukshetra district of Haryana state (India).The statistical technique of Mean (M), standard Deviation (SD) and t-ratio was used to compare the social skills in the school students in relation to their gender. The finding of the study shows that academic achievement has significant dependence on social skills of school students.

GoelUrmila (2015) studied on the impact of gender, family as well as locale on the development of social skills among students studying in senior secondary schools in Sonipatdistrict of

Haryana. The sample size was 100 students. A questionnaire was prepared to evaluate the level of social skills. The data was collected based o, n this questionnaire on social skills. The result shows that no significant difference exists in the level of social skills among male and female students. Also, no significant difference exists in the level of social skills among students studying in senior secondary schools located in urban and rural areas. However, significant difference exists in the level of social skills among students coming from joint and nuclear families. The scores attained by students from joint families are more than that of students coming from nuclear families.

Kaur, Gagandeep (2019) studied the impact on social skills and parental involvement among the students of Amritsar city. Main objective of the study was to find out the difference among the social skills of adolescents of class 9th CBSE school students with the total sample of 200 on the basis of locality, gender, type of family and also took the variable of working and non-working mothers. In all five schools were selected through lottery method. And from the results it was found that that there is a significant difference in social skills i.e. girls have better social skills as compared to boys. And another result indicates that there is no significant difference in social skills and parental involvement among teenagers with respect to locale, type of family and working status of mothers.

Pallavi et al. (2020) conducted a study to examine the social skill of adolescent boys and girls across three socio-economic groups. The sample of 450 adolescents of the age group of 13 to 18 years belonging to three socio-economic groups from Prayag raj city of Uttar Pradesh was taken by the researcher and also followed Stratified random sampling technique. The questionnaire developed byKuppuswamy's socio-economic scale (1961) was used to access the socio-economic status of the adolescents which was later modified and upgraded by Gurura and Maheshwarn in 2014. For the assessment of social skills of respondents, the questionnaire was also developed by herself. The findings of the study revealed that social skill was ranging between high to good in majority of adolescent boys and girls of the upper and middle socio-economic groups whereas, in the lower socio-economic group, it was found ranging between average to poor in majority adolescents. In the study it was also found that there was no significant gender difference found in social skill of adolescents.

DalalSuman (2022) conducted a study on social skill in relation to social adjustment of secondary school students. In order to find out the results in precise and accurate manner a sample of 100 secondary school students were selected by the researcher. Social adjustment inventory questionnaire developed by Dr. Roma Pal (1985) and Matson's Evaluation of social skill with Youngster by Sharma (1997) were used for data collection. The statistical techniques such as Mean, SD, 't'- test and Pearson product Moment correlation was used to analyzed the data. The results of the study showed that there was positive relationship between social skill and social adjustment of secondary school students.

Kiran D. Harira (2023) conducted a study on social skills among adolescents. As a participants Male (200) and female (241) junior college students of age range between 15 to 18 years were selected. Data collection was done through incidental sampling method. The questionnaire developed by Sharma and Punita on Social competence scale (SCS) Sharma and Punita was used for conducting the whole study. The comparison among male and female is done on selected research variables and to find out gender difference on social skills score(s) and its significance level were calculated. Result analysis and discussion is done simultaneously. The result shows that no gender difference was found on interpersonal adequacy, communication skill and social skills whereas on personal adequacy there exists a difference.

Suman (2023) conducted a research study to see the relationship between social skills and academic achievement of secondary school students of Sonipat district. Keeping in view the nature of the study, Descriptive Research Method was used. Secondary school students studying in Sonipat district constituted the population of the study. A sample of 150 students was taken on the basis of random sampling method for the study. Analysis of the data was done by using the Mean, Standard Deviation. 't' test and Karl Pearson's Product Moment Coefficient Correlation tests. Matson's Evaluation of social skill with youngsters by Sharma (1997) and Academic achievement scores obtained by the students in ninth class annual exam were considered as academic achievement of the students. The findings of the study indicates that (i) the female secondary school students are having more social skills than male secondary school students; (ii) it was also noted that the female secondary school students were found to have more academic achievement than male secondary school students; and (iii) there exists a significant and positive relationship between social skills and academic achievement of secondary school students**.**

Balhar, Kumari (2023) investigated a study on social skill in relation to personality development. A sample of 200 students from different backgrounds was selected by using a random sampling procedure of Sonipat district. The population was distributed equally. For the whole investigation the social skills tool developed and standardized by Dr. Sood and Dr. Anand was used by the researcher and personality development tool developed and standardized M. Parthiban was also used. After the analysis, the result showed a positive correlation between social skills and personality development of the adolescent students and also no significant difference between personality development and social skills was found based on the gender.

Badesaba (2023) conducted a study on social skills among adolescents in relation to certain demographic variables and the findings of the study revealed that there is a significant difference in the social skills of adolescents in relation to gender. Girls have higher social skills than boys. Due to peer pressure, boys struggle socially more than girls. During adolescence, boys perceive social skills as less important and engage in many anti- social activities. On the other hand, girls engage in household activities, where they observe the behaviors of adults and learn good social and moral character from them. The result of the study also revealed that there is a significant difference in the social skills of adolescents in relation to type of school. Students in private schools have better social skills than students in public schools.

Monika (2023) investigated a study to see a comparative and relation study of social skills among the rural and urban students. The present study was conducted by following a technique or procedure of random sampling and in total a sample of 100 students was employed by the researcher. For the collection of data, the tool constructed by Dr. C.M. Bindhu and K. Ligina on **"Social Skills Rating Scale" was** used for the investigator for the collection of data. The data was analyzed by employing mean, SD, t-test. The results of the study have indicated that there is no significant difference between Social Skills among rural and urban students.

In brief, the review on studies conducted on social skills revealed that the majority of research studies primarily focused on evaluating and building students social skills within a variety of social contexts.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

In today's world rapid changes can be observed in each and every sphere of life and it is only the education that plays vital role to cope up with such changes. Sometimes it becomes very difficult for the parents, teachers to prepare the adolescents to deal with the fast-changing world. Differences can be seen everywhere, whether it is the institution where they take education or the area wheretheyare living or in their social background also. It can be noticed also in the economic conditions of the family which is their backbone. All these differences put a huge influence on the grooming of the adolescents and in their personality development.

During adolescence we have new experiences, we learn new things and we form new relationships with people. Appropriate level of social skills allows adolescents to develop relationship with others in ways that are strong, healthy and for life time. Therefore, the investigator decided to study social skills among adolescents of Himachal Pradesh and to explore its existing status and future prospects by considering three main independent variables or characteristics i.e. Family -related characteristics, demographic characteristics and personal variables and one dependent variable i.e. social skills.

The present work will investigate the impact of family -related characteristics among adolescents in developing the social skills i.e. at what extent the family is putting an impact on the adolescents to become socialized instead of different economic backgrounds and occupational status. Family relationship plays major role in the life of adolescent students because it enhances their social skills and turns them into mature persons who will be able to reasonable, successful and competitive result-oriented students for the future of our homeland. Researchers those who are doing study on students of urban and rural environment will surely get the benefit of this study. An attempt will be made by the investigator in the present study to explore and investigate the impact of certain demographic variables based on different components i.e. area, size and type of family in which they are living because the conditions and environments provided to the adolescents by the parents have a huge impact on their personality. An attempt will be done by the investigator in the present study to investigate the effect of certain demographic variables based on different components. Through the findings of the study, rural and urban parents will be aware of the impact of their family environment on developing the social skills among the students. In the present study an attempt will be done to

find out the effect of area and gender will contribute positively to the development of the students by harmonizing their environment based on the results because demographic characteristics plays a vibrant role in understanding the issues/difficulties of school going adolescents and to make them socialize. In the present situation, there is a need to develop social skills so that a person can develop his personality organically become socially adapted and morally grounded. The present research will try to understand the difference in social skills of teenagers from the perspective of strength nuclear and joint families of Himachal Pradesh state in which five factors of social skills have been studied and analyzed through the established scale. The present study will also investigate the impact of personal variables because it lays the foundation for success in the fast and globalized world.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

"Social Skills among senior secondary school students in relation to certain family-related and academic variables"

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the difference in social skills among senior secondary school students with respect to following family-related variables:
   (i) Gender
   (ii) Family type
   (iii) Family Annual Income
2. To study interaction in following variables with respect to social skills among senior secondary school students:
   (i) Gender and Family Type
   (ii) Gender and Family Annual Income
   (iii) Family type and Family Annual Income
   (iv) Gender, Family type and Family Annual Income
3. To study the difference in social skills among senior secondary school students following family-related variables:
   a) Father educational status
   b) Mother educational status

c) Father occupational status

4. To study the interaction in following variables with respect to social skills among senior secondary school students:
   (i) Father educational status and Mother educational status
   (ii) Father educational status and Father occupational status
   (iii) Mother educational status and Father occupational status
   (iv) Father educational status, Mother educational status and Father occupational status
5. To study the difference in social skills among senior secondary school students in relation to following academic variables:
   (i) Educational aspiration
   (ii) Vocational aspiration
   (iii) Academic Achievement in previous class
6. To study the interaction in following variables with regard to social skills among senior secondary school students:

a) Educational aspiration and Vocational aspiration
b) Educational aspiration and Academic achievement
c) Vocational aspiration and Academic achievement
d) Educational aspiration, Vocational aspiration and Academic achievement

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. There will be no significant difference in social skills among senior secondary school students in respect to following family-related variables:
   (i) Gender
   (ii) Family type
   (iii) Family Annual Income
2. There will be no significant interaction between following family-related variables with respect to social skills among senior secondary school students:
   (i) Gender and Family Type
   (ii) Gender and Family Annual Income
   (iii) Family type and Family Annual Income
   (iv) Gender, Family type and Family Annual Income

3. There will be no significance difference in social skills among seniorsecondary school students following family-related variables:
    (i) Father educational status
    (ii) Mother educational status
    (iii) Father occupational status
4. There will be no significant interaction between following family-related variables with respect to social skills among senior secondary school students:
    (i) Father educational status and Mother educational status
    (ii) Father educational status and Father occupational status
    (iii) Mother educational status and Father occupational status
    (iv) Father educational status, Mother educational status andFather occupational status
5. There will be no significant difference in social skills among senior secondary school students in relation to following academic variables:
    (i) Educational aspiration
    (ii) Vocational aspiration
    (iii) Academic Achievement in previous class
6. There will be no significant interaction between following variables with regard to social skills among senior secondary school students:
    (i) Educational aspiration and Vocational aspiration
    (ii) Educational aspiration and Academic achievement
    (iii) Vocational aspiration and Academic achievement
    (iv) Educational aspiration, Vocational aspiration and Academic achievement

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

- The study will be delimited to four districts of Himachal Pradesh namely; Shimla, Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Kangra.
- The present investigation will include only govt. senior secondary schools affiliated to Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education Dharamshala.
- The study will be delimited to the students studying in class 11th and 12th.
- The present study will be delimited to following variables:

  Dependent Variable: Social Skills

Independent Variables:

(a) Family-related variables

- Gender
- Family Type
- Family Annual Income
- Father educational status
- Mother educational status
- Father occupational status

(b) Academic Variables:

- Educational aspiration
- Vocational aspiration
- Academic achievement in previous class

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS USED

Social Skills

Social skills in the present study refer to the social behaviour, way of dealing with others and the abilities exhibited by adolescent students in different life and social situations that create healthy and positive interactions. The social skills in the present study will be measured with the help of 'Social Skills Rating Scale' constructed by Dr. Sood, Dr. Anand and Mr. Kumar (SSRS`-SVAAKS) 2012.

Family-related Variables

In the present study, family-related variables will include; Gender, Family type, Family annual income, Father educational status, Mother educational status, Father occupational status.

Academic Variables

In the present study, the term Academic variables will include; Educational aspiration, Vocational aspiration and Academic achievement of students.

Senior Secondary School Students

These refer to the students who were studying in 11th and 12th classes in government senior secondary schools affiliated to Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education, Dharamshala.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

"Survey Technique" under Descriptive Method of Research will be the sole basis for conducting present investigation.

Sampling:

In the present investigation, the procedure of multistage sampling will be followed. All the twelve districts of H.P. will be considered as the sampling universe for the present study.

At the first stage, four districts out of twelve districts of the state will be selected by employing convenient sampling technique. At the second stage, 4 educational blocks from each district will be chosen randomly. At the third stage, 14 senior secondary schools from each of the selected education block will be taken into consideration by employing convenient sampling procedure. At the last stage, all the students studying in 11th and 12th class in sampled govt. schools will be selected by employing incidental sampling technique. In all, the researcher will make efforts to cover at least 1000 to 1100 students from all the sampled govt. schools.

RESEARCH TOOLS TO BE DEVELOPED /USED

a) Personal Data Sheet

For ascertaining the family-related variable and academic variables, personal data sheet will be prepared by the researcher herself.

b) Social Skills Rating Scale

Social skills rating scale developed by Dr. Sood, Dr. Anand and Mr. Kumar (2012) will be used the present study.

PROCEDURE FOR DATA COLLECTION

For collecting the data, the investigator will personally visit the selected schools. The tool will be administered to the selected sample of adolescents with the prior permission of the concerned Principals/Heads of the schools. Before getting completed tools from the students, a proper rapport will be established with them and all of them will be requested to give requisite information on each item in the tools. All of them will be assured that the information furnished by them will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shown even to the concerned teachers and principals of the schools.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES TO BE USED

For achieving the objectives of the present study, the data will be analyzed by employing following techniques:

To study the social skills among adolescents in relation to family-related variable and academic variables, certain descriptive statistics like mean, median, mode, SD, skewness and kurtosis will be calculated.

In order to study the main and interactional effects of family-variables and academic variables on social skills of senior secondary school students, statistical technique of three way ANOVA will be used.

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